

# bhq

## THE BLOOMINGDALE GAZETTE

A PUBLICATION OF THE BLOOMINGDALE HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION

SEP 1984

VOL V, NO. 11

### SEPTEMBER MEETING

COME OUT AND HEAR  
THE CANDIDATES  
FOR  
COUNTY COMMISSIONER  
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ON YOUR FUTURE

SANDRA BLACK  
DAVID A. JONES  
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GARY SCARBORD  
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RAY REAGAN declined our invitation

Residents Questions are Invited

CIRCLE M NURSERY SCHOOL  
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7:30 P.M. SEPTEMBER 18, 1984

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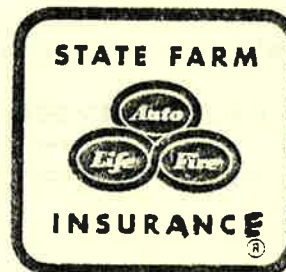
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# BLOOMINGDALE AT LARGE

by Gloria Dyke

If you have noticed the Showalters on Casaba Loop in Bloomingdale East looking simply estatic, they have good reason. Scott and Ben, their sons, are home after serving two years in Germany and Italy with the Armed Forces. Both boys will be visiting for a couple of weeks, then on to their new bases here in the good ol' USA.

Wynella Wilson's son, Arthur, is off to his last year at Bethune-Cookman where he is currently playing on the football team. From what I hear, pro scouts from our Tampa teams are checking Arthur out. We may get to see him play in Tampa Stadium soon.

Wynella and I, as chairladies for the BHA's coke stands at the Brandon Balloon Festival, would like to thank all the volunteers for helping us make this not only the Best Fund Raiser BHA has had, but also helping everything go so smoothly. Our volunteers were:

Mr. and Mrs. George Best  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank DeVito  
Mr. and Mrs. Herb Kemp  
Mr. and Mrs. Rick Jackson  
Mr. and Mrs. David Daly  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kemper  
Mr. and Mrs. Jose Concheiro  
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Francis  
Mr. and Mrs. Les Butler  
Mr. and Mrs. Andy Pafitis  
Miss Antoinina Dyke  
Miss Krista Butler  
Mr. Bill Wheeler  
Mrs. Terry Hicks  
Miss Cassandra Wilson  
Ms. Michelle Harrison  
Ms. Cynthia Malcolm  
Ms. Linda Mir  
Ms. Suzanne Murphy

And a Special Thanks to Mr. and Mrs Chris Pheils who not only worked every day, but were always there to help.

Congratulations to Fred Uphoff on his election as President of Brandon's PRESIDENTS' ROUNDTABLE. The Roundtable is an organization of the community's various association and civic group presidents or designated representatives. Fred is BHA's representative, and he has been a credit to our organization.

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# Gardening

with Eric Wilds

## Fertilizers

September is fertilizing month for your lawn, trees, shrubbery and flower beds. I thought I would take this opportunity to give you a brief introduction to fertilizers and their uses. One very important thing to keep in mind is that when buying fertilizer, you get what you pay for. Another important thing to keep in mind is to carefully read the label and follow directions.

Fertilizer is usually sold by number as in 6-6-6 or 8-8-8. The first number is the % of nitrogen, the second is the % of phosphorous and the third is the % of potassium. When all the numbers are equal, you have a balanced fertilizer good for general purpose fertilizing. At the risk of making a generalization, nitrogen promotes leaf growth, phosphorous encourages blooming and potassium strengthens roots and stems.

Now, if you have a 6-6-6 fertilizer, this adds up to 18%. What is the remaining 82%? If you are using a complete fertilizer, some of the remainder is minor elements. The rest is filler! Some companies use sand, others use deactivated seed or some other filler. That's why 6-6-6 is cheaper than 10-10-10. There are less active ingredients, thus you need more to cover the same area properly.

Another difference is whether the fertilizer is pelletized or granulated. Pelletized fertilizer consists of pellets of coated fertilizer. The coating makes it last longer and give an even, continuous feeding. Generally speaking, pelletized is superior to granulated. The percentage of organic nitrogen in the bag makes a difference. Read the label carefully. Somewhere on the bag it will say which part of the organic nitrogen is derived naturally and which part is synthetic in origin. The higher the amount of natural nitrogen the longer it will last and this makes a superior plant food.

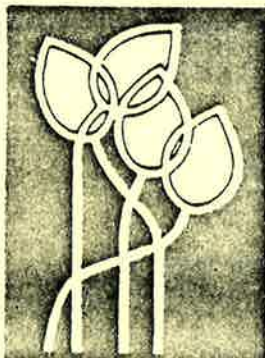
I briefly mentioned minor elements and some explanation may be needed. The numbers 6-6-6 are called the primary plant foods and are required in large amounts by plants. Plants also require other elements in lesser amounts. This second group is referred to as minor elements or secondary plant foods. They are very important to plants in our poor Florida soils and at least twice a year you should use a fertilizer with minor elements. Your lawn, trees and garden will benefit greatly.

As far as a schedule for feeding your landscape, a good rule of thumb is four times a year. March 15th, May 15th, July 15th and September 15th would be a good guideline to follow. If you use liquid or water-soluble fertilizers, you have to apply it at least monthly and every 2 weeks in the rainy season. Milorganite is a high nitrogen fertilizer which can used in the spring and summer or whenever a good organic base is needed for a flower bed or newly planted shrub or tree. Some plants have specific needs and fertilizers are made just for them.

Thus you see azalea foods, citrus specials and palm fertilizers. It's a good idea to use these products on the plants they correspond to at least twice yearly.

I hope this brief article will help you in selecting and purchasing fertilizer. If you are still confused, consult your favorite landscape professional or shop at a nursery/garden shop where your questions are patiently, politely and professionally answered.

Till next month, Happy Gardening!



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## BHA NEWS

by Les Butler

The BHA general membership meeting on August 22, 1984 featured the then candidate and now re-elected school board member Mr. R "Sonny" Palomino on the spot at the Circle M. Nursery School on Bloomingdale Avenue. Mr. Palomino told the residents that Hillsborough county has the four top schools in Florida despite being "pupil rich and property poor." Your children attend school in the 14th largest district in the nation with a budget of \$400. million. County school buses travel 50,000 miles/day and only about 20% of that travel is caused by court ordered busing.

Mr. Palomino gave the residents some good news. Property has already been purchased for a new high school near Bloomingdale. Two elementary schools and a new junior high are also planned for our area. At least one if not two of the new schools will be in Bloomingdale proper. He answered several questions from the residents explaining that even though the school board had projections based on developers' master plans for South Brandon. The Florida State legislature will not fund new school construction until the pupils are actually registered in the area. Thus, the school board cannot keep up with the dynamics of suburban growth. Mark Proctor, Republican candidate for state house of representatives in the audience observing the meeting, was very interested in this Florida version of "catch 22". Later, Mr. Proctor was invited to introduce himself to the members and make a few short remarks about his campaign. In the meantime until the new schools are constructed, our students will still be in overcrowded and portable classrooms.

In a short business meeting following the speakers, President Bob Knott introduced a letter from the Brandon 1st Baptist Church Tennis League requesting use of the Park East Tennis Courts for league play. The membership voted to refer the request to Criterion expressing no objections to the outside usage of a Bloomingdale recreational facility.

The BHA operated Coca Cola stands at the Brandon Balloon Festival were a rousing success. Earnings topped all previous records, thanks to your patronage. You'll have to come to the September meeting to find out how much we made at the festival. Gloria Dyke and Wynella Wilson deserve all the credit for making it a success. Both of them spent hours coordinating and setting up the stands. They and the volunteers who manned the concessions stands represent the true spirit of BLOOMINGDALE. The money earned will allow the BHA to continue to serve this community. **THANKS!!**

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**BHA NEWS (Continued)**

The board of directors met on September 3, 1984 at Andy Pafitis' home. Among other things, the board decided to not sponsor the Halloween Party this year. Since we are still having problems with slow and spotty Gazette distribution, the board is in the process of acquiring a Bulk Mail permit. This will be an annual cost and approximately \$.05 per copy. We estimate this will add about \$50-\$75 to the monthly cost, \$350-\$375, of the Gazette. Advertising pays for about 50% of the Gazette, the rest is absorbed by the association.

BHA now has about 213 homes and if you join now your membership will be good until November 1985. Two free months plus the opportunity to vote in November's Board of Directors election. The board issued invitations to Mr. "Spud" Clements and Mr. Mark Proctor, Florida House Democratic and Republican candidates respectively, to speak at our October general membership meeting. Both candidates are very busy and we may have to adjust the meeting date to accommodate their schedule. Let us know if you are planning to attend this meeting so that we can arrange for a larger crowd than usual.

On a sad note, Mr. Frank DeVito announced his resignation from the board citing personal reasons. Frank will remain as the Gazette advertising manager and will be in the forefront of BHA activities as a member. Frank has served BHA well and faithfully and we regret his departure from the board. Frank's vacancy will be filled by the November election making a total of 7 board members to be elected. Call Wynella if you want to nominate someone. The Gazette will run biographies from the candidates next month. See you on the 18th at 7:30 p.m. to hear what our future County commissioner has to say about Bloomingdale. Circle M Nursery School is our permanent meeting site until we outgrow it.

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**BHA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 1985**

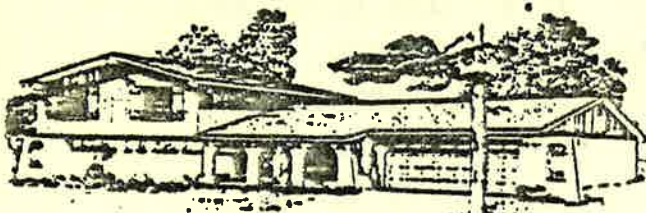
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# NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

by Cliff Weinrick

The following was extracted from the July 1984: Sheriff's Neighborhood Watch Newsletter.

Credit cards are certainly convenient. Unfortunately, if your cards are lost or stolen, they can end up providing conveniences for people you never intended. To guard against this, there are several precautions you should take to protect your cards:

1. Check your cards periodically to make sure you have them all.
2. Do not leave credit cards in your automobile.
3. In a safe place, keep a list of all your credit cards, their numbers, and the address and phone number of whom to notify in case of loss.
4. When making credit purchases, be sure your credit card is returned to you after each purchase.
5. If you have a card that operates a bank teller machine, memorize your personal security number. Don't carry it written down in your pocket or purse
6. If your cards are stolen or lost, immediately telephone all the appropriate card issuers so they can take steps to stop charges on the cards. Follow up the phone calls with letters.
7. And remember these facts about credit cards that are stolen: More than 70% of card thefts are from women, because purses are in plain view, or left unattended in hotel rooms, cars, offices, shopping and grocery carts, restaurants or on store counters. Most thefts occur on weekends and in crowded situations -- shopping areas, sports events, and the like.

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## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS (Cont.)

### BLOOMINGDALE HOMES BURGLARIZED

Over the Labor Day weekend, we had several burglaries in the Sandy Creek and Tyndale Dr. neighborhood. One of the victims told us that the thief entered through the side door of the garage and into the kitchen area from the garage sometime between 12 midnight and 5 a.m. The thief took his wife's purse and discarded it in the back yard after removing about \$80.00. Our victim said "The real kicker was after the deputy sheriff completed his investigation; my wife locked herself out. She called the deputy back to help and he opened the front door with a penknife!" Our victim had the locksmith out that day to install dead bolts. The Sheriff's office stated that in nearly every case these thieves are entering occupied homes through unlocked doors and windows between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. Our neighbor insisted that all his doors were locked, but they still got in without visible damage.

The Sheriff will provide a HOME SAFETY lecture emphasizing crime prevention to anyone who wants it. They also have a video tape on crime prevention available (VHS Format). Call Earl D'Avignon at 247-6411 ext 2261 or your Neighborhood Watch Block Captain. If you don't have an active Neighborhood Watch on your street, call Cliff Weinrick at 685-0885 and volunteer to be a Block Captain. And while you're in a volunteering mood give Chuck Loomis a call at 681-4835 and sign on for the Mobile Watch. Do it now, not after another rash of burglaries and tell your new neighbors about Neighborhood Watch.

Editor's note: I got a call from a lady on Casaba Loop. She said that the side of her house had been plastered with eggs for the second time. Sure would be nice if some "parents" and I use the term loosely would take an active interest in what their children are doing. Maybe your son or daughter needs some attention. Remember your house could be next on the "hit parade" starring somebody else's vandal.

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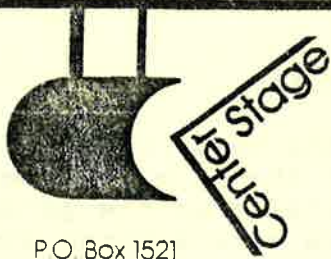
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"Sneak Revue" - A benefit musical revue gala with wine and hors d'oeuvres previewing the 1984-85 theater season. September 28th. \$7.50

"Short Stories" - A dinner/theater production. The World Premier of an original Harry Chapin revue. October 26-28, November 2-4. \$15.00

"25 More Days ....." - A theater Christmas Gala. December 9. \$5.00

Stage Left - A weekend of one acts with wine and cheese. January 18 - 20. \$6.50

"Marry Me A Little" - A Musical dinner/theater production from the composer of "Company", "Follies" and "Sweeney Todd". February 15-24 \$15.00

A Contemporary Drama - to be announced. March 29-31, April 5-7. \$6.50

"MOMS" - A dinner/theater production. A musical revue adapted from Erma Bombeck's "Motherhood, the 2nd Oldest Profession". May 17-19 and 24-26. \$15.00

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To give the Tampa area premier of "Short Stories" our best possible effort and to further support the performing arts in our area, we are offering patron memberships this year. For more information, call Center Place at 685-8888 or Anita Jesski at 681-5908.

# YOUR PET'S HEALTH

THE TRAVELING DOG

By Dr. Margaret Wissman

Before you start on an extensive trip with your pet, do two things: Make sure his/her rabies license and identification tags are securely attached to the collar and get a health certificate from your veterinarian, listing all inoculations and stating that the dog is free of infectious diseases. These are safeguards in case you should lose him or have to board him temporarily in a kennel. A health certificate is required if your pet will be travelling out of state, and it is also required by most airlines.

Most dogs love car travel, especially if they have started at an early age. If yours is not accustomed to the automobile, prepare for your trip by taking him on short rides. Medication may be prescribed by your vet for motion sickness or extreme nervousness, but most dogs adjust to travel after an hour or so on the road.

Take along his food and water dishes and a good supply of his regular food. This is no time to switch diets. Be sure to take along any medications he may be on - especially his heartworm preventative. Give him fresh water and leash walk him each time you stop for gas. Keep the car well ventilated. Remember dogs do not sweat to cool off - they pant. Never leave your dog in a completely closed car, even with the windows cracked open, heat stroke can occur, and that is a life threatening situation. If your pet is traveling by air, as well, make sure you contact the airline in advance for their specific requirements. Some airlines allow pets to travel in the cabin with you, but most frequently, they will fly in a pressurized freight area, which is perfectly safe.



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# LETTERS to the EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Your willingness to publish my letter in defense of non-involvement was greatly appreciated. It obviously had the desired effect, since I have already received a letter from a reader thanking me for expressing her views.

This time I take pen in hand (or, more accurately, load the word processor) to strongly suggest that the Gazette start printing a disclaimer of responsibility for facts and opinions rendered by others.

In recent issues of the Gazette, there are facts and opinions expressed that I'm sure the BHA would not want to be associated with -- particularly those that have tenuous factual bases (sic) and that might be perceived as detrimental to reputation of a person or business. We are all aware of the current lawsuit mentality in this country, and it would be a shame (wouldn't it?) to see the BHA become the (relatively) innocent target of a libel suit.

Speaking of questionable factual assertions, albeit not necessarily one that might subject the BHA to some kind of lawsuit, I would be very curious to know where you got the idea that "disposition of pool fill dirt is the homeowner's responsibility" when a contractor, not the homeowner, is doing the work. (In my view, because the statement appears in the "BHA Meeting Notes" article and is not specifically ascribed to someone else, the burden for its accuracy rests with you and the BHA.)

You then go one incredible step further and assert that "the developer will sue the homeowner not the pool contractor".

It's bad enough that you or, let's be realistic, whoever you were quoting had the tenacity to be judge, jury and executioner on this issue, but you (or whoever) then suggest that the developer would not even display the civility or common courtesy of at least asking the homeowner for remedial action before going to court. Judge Wopner would have a heart attack.

In any case, whoever reached that conclusion about responsibility should have a chat with a lawyer about the law of agency, particularly the distinction between an employee and an independent contractor, and the homeowner's responsibility for the actions of each.

For example, what if the pool contract provides, either specifically or by clear implication, that the ownership of the dirt removed during excavation becomes the property of the contractor? Does the law forbid such a contract provision and retain ownership in the homeowner forever? Suppose the dirt were (sic) used to provide grading for someone else's home -- could the original homeowner go to the new location and take it back?

And if the homeowner's responsibility is not based on his ownership of the dirt, on what then is it based? The simple fact that the contractor is working for him? If that is the case, is the homeowner also liable for damages caused when the contractor's truck (hauling the homeowner's dirt) is involved in an accident? What if the truck driver intentionally murders someone by dumping the whole truckload of your dirt on that person's head? Get serious.

I have no idea what my pool contractor did with the dirt he carted off and I could care less. But if Criterion or NIPIC can identify any of the dirt in question as having come from my yard (which, of course, they had better be prepared to do), then by all means let them sue me and I will gleefully report the results to the Gazette.

Sincerely,

C.F. Mowery, Jr.

Editor's Note: Skip did include a suggested disclaimer.

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# REAL ESTATE FACTS

by: **Ted A. Keiser**



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|                         | Year #2 | \$12,840 x 7% | = \$13,738 |
|                         | Year #3 | \$13,738 x 7% | = \$14,701 |
|                         | Year #4 | \$14,701 x 7% | = \$15,730 |
|                         | Year #5 | \$15,730 x 7% | = \$16,831 |

The balance in the savings account after five years would be \$16,831, with the original \$12,000 having earned \$4,831 in interest. The return on the original \$12,000 then would be 8.05% per year.

Home Purchase: Assuming the purchase of a \$60,000 house using \$12,000 in cash as a 20% down payment:

|         |                 |            |
|---------|-----------------|------------|
| Year #1 | \$60,000 x 3.5% | = \$62,100 |
| Year #2 | \$62,100 x 3.5% | = \$64,274 |
| Year #3 | \$64,274 x 3.5% | = \$66,523 |
| Year #4 | \$66,523 x 3.5% | = \$68,851 |
| Year #5 | \$68,851 x 3.5% | = \$71,261 |

The house after 5 years is worth \$11,261 more than the purchase price. On the original investment of \$12,000, an additional \$11,261 was earned. Thus, the return on the original \$12,000 was 18.8%. So, given the same alternatives, which would you choose?

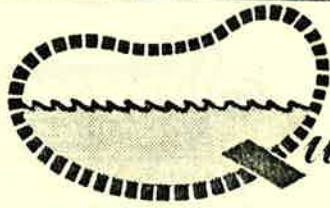
Another alternative to investing in real estate...invest in your family! In years gone by, Americans experienced an era when family meant close and strong ties. Relatives joined together in closeknit unity, sharing in prosperity and giving each other emotional and financial support when needed. Today, there is an opportunity to return to those times of helping one another. Many young families wanting to own their first home could be matched with relatives wanting to earn above average returns on their savings.

By making funds available for downpayments and mortgages, many parents, grandparents, and even aunts & uncles could earn 10% - 13% interest on a secure investment while at the same time keeping their money at work within their family. The younger set, then being able to purchase a home, can begin to build equity towards their own financial security in later years. By paying only 10% - 13% interest, a relatively low mortgage interest rate by today's standards, home equity can build quickly with fewer dollars wasted on interest.

In order to provide security that the loan will be repaid, the relative borrowing the money would give a "promissory note" or a "second mortgage" or "deed of trust" to the relative loaning the money. Families working together makes sense, don't you agree?

If I can ever be of help to answer your real estate questions, please give me a call. I'm local and interested in you.

*Ted*



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INTRODUCES

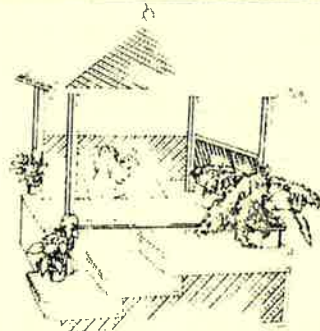
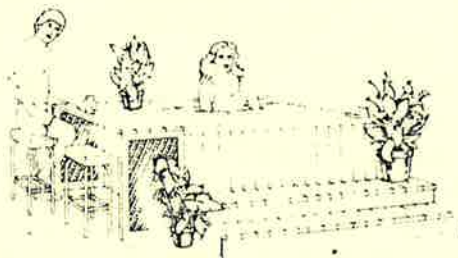
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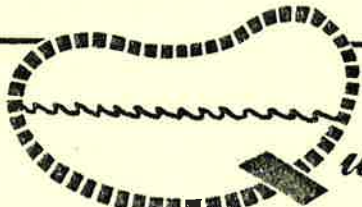
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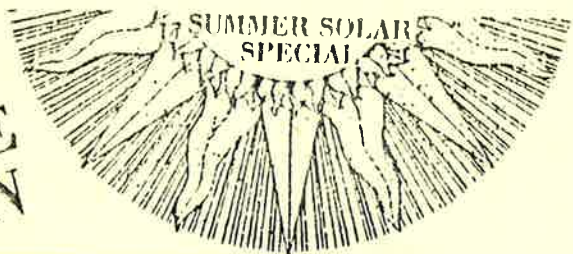
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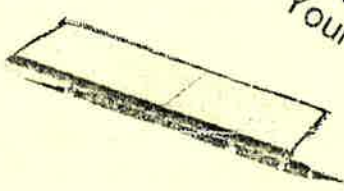
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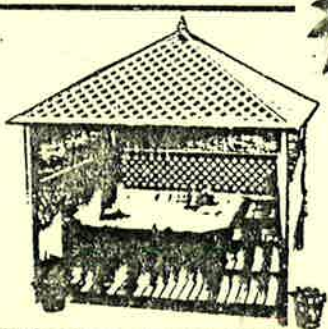
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Call the Editor or Gloria Dyke  
if you want your event to  
appear on the BHA Calendar.

led.

| SEPTEMBER |  | What's Going On?                            |                           |    |    |    | OCTOBER |
|-----------|--|---|---------------------------|----|----|----|---------|
| S         | M  | T   | W                         | T  | F  | S  |         |
| 9         | 10<br>CRAFT CORNER                               | 11<br>PROGRESS VILLAGE PTA SUPPER 5:30 P.M. | 12<br>BROOKER PTA MEETING | 13 | 14 | 15 |         |
| 16        | 17<br>TROOP 405 GIRL SCOUT ST. ANDREWS 6:30 P.M. | 18<br>7:30 P.M. BHA MEETS CIRCLE IN NURSERY | 19                        | 20 | 21 | 22 |         |
| 23        | 24   | 25  | 26                        | 27 | 28 | 29 |         |
| 30        | OCT 1  | 2<br>BHA BOARD 7:30 P.M.                    | 3                         | 4  | 5  | 6  |         |
| 7         | 8<br>CRAFT CORNER                                | 9   | 10                        | 11 | 12 | 13 |         |

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